

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

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R 212203Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231627

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS

1. ISRAELI EMBOFF IN CONVERSATION OCTOBER 18 RELATED
FOLLOWING TO DEPTOFF:

2. ETHIOPIAN FONMIN ZEWDE AND ISRAELI FONMIN YIGAL ALLON
MET AT UNGA SEPTEMBER 17. ALLON TOLD ZEWDE THAT
ISRAEL WAS READY TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND ECONO-
MIC AND MILITARY COOPERATION WITH ETHIOPIA. HE REMINDED
ZEWDE OF THE COMMUNITY OF INTEREST BETWEEN ISRAEL AND
OTHER NON-ARAB MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES SUCH AS ETHIOPIA AND
IRAN, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE ARAB-SUPPORTED THREAT
TO ETHIOPIAN CONTROL OF ERITREA. ALLON TOLD ZEWDE THAT
ISRAEL WOULD BE PREPARED TO ENTERTAIN ALL REALISTIC
REQUESTS FOR AID ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS IF TIES RENEWED.

3. ZEWDE SAID THAT THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE FRUSTRA-
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TION IN EAST AFRICA OVER THE LACK OF MEANINGFUL ARAB

ASSISTANCE SINCE THE AFRICANS BROKE WITH ISRAEL. HE SAID THAT HE WAS HOPEFUL FOR A "CHANGE IN STATUS OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL," IN CONCERT WITH KENYA, AFTER THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA STABILIZES.

4. ZEWDE SAID HE HAD PERSONALLY SELECTED SOMEONE TO SERVE AS ETHIOPIAN INTERESTS OFFICER IN THE EMBASSY OF MEXICO

(ETHIOPIA'S PROTECTING POWER) IN ISRAEL. HE TOLD ALLON THAT THE ETHIOPIANS WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR AN ISRAELI DIPLOMAT TO SERVE IN THE EMBASSY OF SWEDEN IN ADDIS ABABA.

5. ON A NEW SUBJECT, ISRAELI EMBOFF SAID THEY WERE INFORMED THAT THE RECENT VISIT OF A SECOND LIBYAN DELEGATION, WHICH REPORTEDLY GAVE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT US \$1 MILLION FOR "DROUGHT RELIEF", WAS PROMPTED BY REPORTS REACHING LIBYA THAT AFCC WAS CONSIDERING RE-ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL. GIFT PRESUMABLY WAS INTENDED TO DISCOURAGE SUCH A MOVE.

6. FYI WASHINGTON POST REPORTED OCTOBER 18 THAT LIBYA "IS RELIABLY REPORTED TO BE PRESSING NOW FOR THE MOVEMENT (ELF) TO DROP ITS DEMAND FOR TOTAL SECESSION AND ACCEPT A FEDERALIST SOLUTION." PLF "HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT." END FYI. INGERSOLL

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